

RETURN

(94)

TO AN ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, dated January 22, 1912, for a copy of all correspondence between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Province of Quebec, with regard to the extension of the boundaries of the said province.

W. J. ROCHE,
Secretary of State.

OTTAWA, February 7, 1912.

Re Boundaries of Quebec—See Sessional Papers, No. 71, of 1892; No. 43, of 1893; No. 65, of 1910-11; and papers herewith.

QUEBEC, January 3, 1912.

The Right Hon. R. L. BORDEN,
Premier of the Dominion of Canada,
Ottawa.

DEAR MR. PREMIER,—I should have asked sooner your consideration of a question of the first importance of the province of Quebec, a question which was practically settled although not finally concluded. I considered it only fair to you who had just taken office, that a little time should be allowed to dispose of the other matters which you had in view, before asking you to take up this question, but now, I am sure, you and your colleagues will give it immediate attention.

I refer to the resolution adopted by the Parliament of Canada in 1908, declaring that it is expedient to extend the boundaries of the province of Quebec so as to include all the territory to the north of the said province now known as Ungava and extending to the waters of James Bay and Hudson Bay and the entrance thereto.

Late, in 1909, a resolution was unanimously passed by the Legislative Assembly, authorizing the Lieutenant Governor in Council to enter into negotiations with the Governor General of Canada in Council respecting this annexation. Conferences were afterwards had with the Ottawa Government at which the matter was fully gone into, and I may say that, when the Canadian Parliament was dissolved, the terms and conditions of an arrangement had been substantially agreed upon.

Report has it now that you will shortly consider the question of the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba and Ontario and I would suggest that the annexation of Ungava to Quebec should be settled at the same time.

Any assistance in our power to bring about this desirable end will be cheerfully given by my colleagues and myself.

Yours faithfully,
LOMER GOUIN.

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OTTAWA, ONT., January 8, 1912.

DEAR MR. PREMIER,—Your letter of the 3rd inst. has just reached me. I shall take up this matter with my colleagues at the earliest opportunity. You realize of course that under existing conditions we are very much engaged in arranging our work for the present session as we have had little opportunity for that purpose.

In the meantime perhaps you will be good enough to forward to me the documents alluded to in the third paragraph of your letter. On inquiry in the Privy Council office I am informed that no documents or correspondence are to be found.

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd.) R. L. BORDEN.

Sir LOMER GOUIN,
Premier of Quebec,
Quebec, Que.

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER,
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
QUEBEC, January 22, 1912.

The Right Hon. R. L. BORDEN,
Premier of Canada,
Ottawa, Canada.

DEAR MR. PREMIER,—I have your letter of 8th instant, respecting the northern extension of the province.

In conformity with your request, I am sending you the document mentioned in the third paragraph of my letter of 30th December last, i.e., the resolution of the Legislative Assembly authorizing the Lieutenant Governor in Council to enter into negotiations with the Governor General of Canada in Council as to these boundaries.

Other negotiations which were had were carried on by conferences and personal interviews.

The conclusion arrived at was that the whole of Ungava, that is, that part of the country north of the present boundaries of the province of Quebec, between Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait and whatever may be—to the east—the territory belonging to Newfoundland, would be annexed to the province, on condition that the province of Quebec settle any claims which the Indian inhabitants therein might have and also that the population of the annexed region should not be taken into account to fix the representation in the House of Commons.

I quite appreciate how much you are pressed for time at the present moment and will be prepared, as soon as you deem it convenient, to discuss this question with you.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) LOMER GOUIN.

EXTRACT from the Votes and Proceedings of the Sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec held on the Twenty-seventh day of April, one thousand nine hundred and Nine.

Honourable Sir Lomer Gouin moved that:—

Whereas the Parliament of Canada, at its last session, passed the following resolutions:

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“Whereas petitions have been presented to the Government and to this House, from the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, praying for an extension of the boundaries of the said province northward and eastward, and for an additional subsidy to the said province in lieu of the ownership of public lands in the territory to be added, be it resolved:

“That it is expedient that the prayer of the said petition should be acceded to, and that, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislative Assembly, and by Parliament, the boundaries of Manitoba be extended as follows:

“The northern boundary to be the sixtieth parallel of latitude; the western boundary to be the present eastern boundary line of the province of Saskatchewan to the said sixtieth parallel; the eastern boundary to be the present eastern boundary as far north as the northeast corner of the province, thence on a straight line to the most eastern point of Island lake, and thence on a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of Hudson Bay;

“And be it further resolved:

“That whereas, notwithstanding the extension of territory above described, the ungranted lands of the Crown in the territory so to be added to the said province will still continue to be administered by the Government of Canada for the purposes of the Dominion, and the said province will not have the public land as a source of revenue;

“It is just and equitable to recognize the increased cost of civil government which such extension of territory will occasion to the province; and, in view of the premises, to make to the said province an increased allowance by money payment, the amount of which should be the subject of negotiation between the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba;

“And be it further resolved:

“That upon the Legislature of the Province of Ontario consenting thereto, it is expedient to extend the boundaries of the said province upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislature, and by Parliament, so as to include all the territory to the north of the said province lying between the extended boundaries of Manitoba above described, and the waters of James Bay and Hudson Bay;

“And be it further resolved:

“That upon the Legislature of the Province of Quebec consenting thereto, it is expedient to extend the boundaries of the said province upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislature and by Parliament, so as to include all the territory to the north of the said province now known as Ungava and extending to the waters of James Bay and Hudson Bay, and the entrance thereto;

“And be it further resolved:

“That nothing contained in any legislation which may be passed to carry out the foregoing resolutions, shall in any way prejudicially affect the representation of any province in this House.”

Whereas the territory of Ungava in question in one of the resolutions above set forth and adopted by the Parliament of Canada at its last session, geographically forms part of the Province of Quebec, and it is in the interest of such territory as well as in that of the province, that it be annexed to the territory of the Province of Quebec.

Be it resolved:—That the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may enter into negotiations with the Governor General of Canada in Council respecting the annexation to the Province of Quebec of all territory situated to the north of the northern frontier of the province and extending to Hudson's straits between the bay so named and the Atlantic Ocean or the strip of territory which may belong to Newfoundland, along the

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shore of such ocean, including on the west coast the archipelagoes and islands adjoining the mainland, as well as the following islands and groups of islands: Ottawa, Sleepers, Baker's Dozen, Belchers, North Belchers, King George, Mansfield, Charles and all the islands of Ungava Bay, and the Button islands, upon such terms and conditions as may be accepted by the Government of Canada and that of this Province.

And a debate arising, the motion was adopted unanimously.

Certified a true extract,

(Sd.) L. P. GEOFFRION,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
of the Province of Quebec.

OTTAWA, ONT., January 25, 1912.

DEAR SIR LOMER GOUIN,—At the moment I have only time to acknowledge your letter of the 22nd instant, enclosing copy of a resolution of the Legislative Assembly of your province authorizing the Lieutenant Governor in Council to enter into negotiations with the Government of Canada respecting the Northern boundary of Quebec. At the earliest possible opportunity I shall take up the matter with my colleagues.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) R. L. BORDEN.

P.C. 1940.

QUEBEC, le 10 septembre 1909.

MONSIEUR,—J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre, sous pli, copies d'une adresse et résolution de l'Assemblée Législative, adoptée à la dernière session, au sujet du territoire connu sous le nom d'Ungava, et de vous prier de vouloir bien soumettre ces documents à la considération de Son Excellence le Gouverneur General

J'ai l'honneur d'être, monsieur,

Votre obéissant serviteur,

(Signé) C. A. P. PELLETIER,
Lieutenant-Gouverneur.

L'Hon. Secrétaire d'Etat,
 Ottawa.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

QUEBEC, September 8, 1909.

To His Honour

The Honourable Sir CHARLES ALPHONSE PANTALEON PELLETIER, K.C.M.G.,
 Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec.

We, His Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec in Provincial Legislature assembled, beg to inform Your Honour that, on the twenty-seventh day of April, 1909, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec unanimously adopted the following resolution:

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Resolved:

"Whereas petitions have been presented to the Government and to this House, from the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, praying for an extension of the boundaries of the said province northward and eastward, and for an additional subsidy to the said province in lieu of the ownership of public lands in the territory to be so added, be it resolved:

"That it is expedient that the prayer of the said petition should be acceded to, and that, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislative Assembly, and by Parliament, the boundaries of Manitoba be extended as follows:

"The northern boundary to be the sixtieth parallel of latitude; the western boundary to be the present eastern boundary line of the province of Saskatchewan to the said sixtieth parallel; the eastern boundary to be the present eastern boundary as far north as the northeast corner of the province; thence on a straight line to the most eastern point of Island lake, and thence on a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of Hudson Bay;

"And be it further resolved:

"That whereas, notwithstanding the extension of territory above described, the ungranted lands of the Crown in the territory so to be added to the said province will still continue to be administered by the Government of Canada for the purposes of the Dominion, and the said province will not have the public lands as a source of revenue;

"It is just and equitable to recognize the increased cost of civil government which such extension of territory will occasion to the province, and, in view of the premises, to make to the said province an increased allowance by money payment, the amount of which should be the subject of negotiations between the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba;

"And be it further resolved:

"That upon the Legislature of the Province of Ontario consenting thereto, it is expedient to extend the boundaries of the said province upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislature and by Parliament, so as to include all the territory to the north of the said province lying between the extended boundaries of Manitoba above described, and the waters of James Bay, and Hudson Bay;

"And be it further resolved:

"That upon the Legislature of the Province of Quebec consenting thereto, it is expedient to extend the boundaries of the said province upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislature and by Parliament, so as to include all the territory to the north of the said province now known as Ungava and extending to the waters of James Bay and Hudson Bay, and the entrance thereto;

"And be it further resolved:

"That nothing contained in any legislation which may be passed to carry out the foregoing resolution, shall in any way prejudicially affect the representation of any province in this House."

Whereas the territory of Ungava in question in one of the resolutions above set forth and adopted by the Parliament of Canada at its last session, geographically forms part of the province of Quebec, and it is in the interest of such territory as well as in that of the province, that it be annexed to the territory of the province of Quebec;

Be it resolved:—That the Lieutenant Governor in Council may enter into negotiations with the Governor General of Canada in Council respecting the annexation to the province of Quebec of all that territory situated to the north of the northern frontier of this province and extending to Hudson's Straits between the bay so named and the Atlantic ocean or the strip of territory which may belong to Newfoundland, along the shore of such ocean, including on the west coast the archipelagoes and islands adjoining the mainland as well as the following islands and groups of islands; Ottawa,

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Sleepers, Baker's Dozen, Belchers, North Belchers, King George, Mansfield, Charles and all the islands of Ungava Bay, and the Button islands, upon such terms and conditions as may be accepted by the Government of Canada and that of this province.

Resolved, therefore:—That addresses be transmitted to the Governor General of Canada and to the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Quebec.

Resolved:—That an humble address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Quebec begging him to be pleased to transmit the foregoing resolutions to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada.

(Sgd.) J. P. PELLETIER,
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

